

Message Text

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64

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01 INR-05 L-02

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 OMB-01 /054 W

----- 118028

R 261445Z NOV 74

FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 475

INFO AMEMBASSY ALGIERS

AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

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E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: PGOV, EG PINR

SUBJECT: TWO NEW CABINET MINISTERS

1. TWO NEW CABINET MINISTER WILL TAKE OATH OF OFFICE NOV 26.
2. CURRENT MINISTER OF FINANCE, MUHAMMAD ABD AL-FATTAH IBRAHIM, IS TRANSFERRED TO MINISTRY OF INSURANCE, REPLACING DR. HASAN SHARIF WHO RECENTLY DIED. ABD AL-FATTAH HAD BEEN APPOINTED TO MINISTRY OF FINANCE IN APRIL 1974, BUT SUFFERED HEART ATTACK ON SEPT 19. HE REMAINS IN POOR HEALTH AND, ACCORDING TO AHRAM, LEFT HIS HOUSE FOR FIRST TIME ON NOV 25 TO PAY CALL ON PM HEGAZI.
3. MUHAMMAD HAMDI AL-NASHAR (CORRECT TRANSLITERATION IS NASHSHAR), RECTOR OF ASSIUT UNIVERSITY, IS NEW MINISTER OF FINANCE. DR. NASHAR, BORN 1921, HAS PHD IN ACCOUNTING. HE TAUGHT AT ALEXANDRIA UNIVERISTY AND LATER WAS PROFESSOR OF FINANCIAL ACCOUNTING AT ASSIUT UNIVERSITY'S FACULTY OF COMMERCE. APPOINTED VICE PRESIDENT OF ASSIUT IN 1968, HE BECAME RECTOR IN 1969. IN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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1971, HE WAS APPOINTED SECRETARY OF ARAB SOCIALIST UNION OF

ASSIUT GOVERNORATE.

4. THERE ARE ALSO REPORTS THAT MINISTER OF POWER AND ELECTRICITY AHMAD SULTAN, WHO IS AILING AND CURRENTLY IN A LONDON CLINIC, MAY BE UNABLE TO CARRY ON AND HAVE TO BE CHANGED, BUT PRIMIN APPARENTLY TAKING NO INITIATIVE ON THIS PENDING FURTHER WORD ON SULTAN'S SITUATION.

5. COMMENT: ABOVE CHANGES HAVE NO SIGNIFICANCE IN TERMS OF GOE OPERATIONS; ABD AL-FATTAH IBRAHIM, WHO IS A PERSONAL FRIEND OF HEGAZI, HAS PROBABLY BEEN GIVEN SOCIAL INSURANCE PORTFOLIO AS ONE WHERE PACE IS A BIT SLOWER. AL-NASHAR INFLUENCE ON MINFINANCE REMAINS TO BE SEEN, BUT AT MINIMUM HE WILL NEED TIME TO ACQUAINT HIMSELF WITH HIS NEW DUTIES. IN ANY EVENT, HEGAZI REMAINS THE FINANCE MINISTER IN FACT IF NOT IN NAME AND CONTROLS ALL OF ITS ACTIONS.
EILTS

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